

Appl. No. : 09/854,067
 Filed : May 10, 2001

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-5 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 2 and 6 were previously canceled. Claims 9 and 10 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's instructions. Accordingly, Claims 7-15 are pending in this application. The amendment does not include new matter to the application. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments and reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Objection

Claims 9 and 10 have been objected to because of the informalities set forth in the Office action. The Examiner has asserted that "the group" should be -- a group --. Claims 9 and 10 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's instructions, thereby obviating the objection. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this objection.

Rejection of Claims 1 and 3-5 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 3-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by US 6,226,890 (Boronson). As mentioned above, Claims 1 and 3-5 have been canceled. Thus, this rejection is moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7-15 are allowed.

CONCLUSION


In light of the Applicant's amendments to the claims and the foregoing Remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any remaining concerns which might prevent the prompt allowance of the application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number appearing below.

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Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP

Dated: June 16, 2004 By: 
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